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PRESS RELEASE

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USTDA Provides Training Grant to Dangote Oil Refining Company

The United States Trade and Development Agency today signed a training grant agreement with Dangote Oil Refining Company to develop the critical human resources necessary to operate and maintain a Greenfield petroleum refinery.

The refinery owned by the Dangote Group is located in Lekki, Lagos, Nigeria. The USTDA grant will fund a multi-year program to train over 100 Dangote company staff on refinery fundamentals.

USTDA Deputy Director Enoch T. Ebong signed the grant agreement along with Chairman / Chief Executive Officer of the Dangote Group, Alhaji Aliko Dangote in Lagos.

“USTDA is pleased to support the Dangote Oil Refining Company’s efforts to increase Nigeria’s domestic refining capacity. This program builds upon USTDA’s long history of support for vital infrastructure development in Nigeria,” Ms. Ebong said.

Acting United States Consul General Dehab Ghebreab explained that the USTDA’s support for the project is an example of the strength and depth of the U.S.-Nigeria bilateral relationship, adding that it will go a long way in laying a ground work for monumental growth in the country.

“I believe that when government and private sector get together, great things can happen. The U.S. government’s goal is to facilitate transactions that are beneficial to both countries and there is no better example than this project. I am pleased that USTDA could assist here,” Ms. Ghebreab stated.

In his remarks, Alhaji Dangote stated that the USTDA grant was consistent with the U.S. Government’s support for infrastructure development in Nigeria, noting that the company was looking forward to the commissioning of the refinery in 2018.

“For such a high-tech project, investment in getting the right quality of human capital to run the plant is considered to be possibly the most critical success factor for the multi-billion dollar project. We are therefore most grateful for the generous grant from the USTDA towards the training of some of the operators needed to successfully operate and maintain our Greenfield 650,000 bpd capacity refinery at Lekki,” Dangote said.